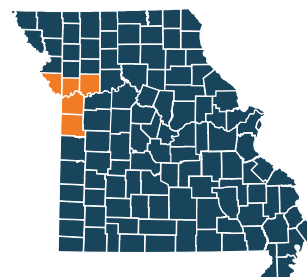


KANSAS CITY REGION

MISSOURI CAREER GRADES

JANUARY 2025



Career Grades are a tool to help make comparisons between occupations. Each occupation is assigned a letter grade from A+ to F based on its outlook over the next decade. Grades are based on a combination of projected total job openings, projected percent growth, and current average wages. Occupations with a grade of A or A+ have above average results in at least two of the three variables, while occupations with a grade of B or B+ have above average results in at least one of the three variables.

The Kansas City region is projected to have over 71,600 annual job openings through 2032. The vast majority (96%) of these openings are in A, B, and C grade occupations. In general, higher graded occupations have higher wages and growth rates. Grade A occupations earn an average wage that is 59 percent higher than the average wage for all occupations in the region in 2023 (\$60,320).

Annual Job Openings and Wages by Career Grades

Grade A

6,648 Job Openings
\$96,038 Average Wage

Grade B

49,913 Job Openings
\$56,658 Average Wage

Grade C

12,321 Job Openings
\$46,761 Average Wage

Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Projected to have the most
annual total job openings

over 9,700

Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Most grade A and B annual
openings

over 9,100

Computer & Mathematical Occupations

Grade A and B Jobs
Concentration

98%









Top Outlook Occupation Groups

Major Occupation Group	Total Openings	A & B Openings	A & B Concentration
Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations	9,708	9,197	95%
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	9,135	6,827	75%
Transportation and Material Moving Occupations	7,371	5,903	80%
Sales and Related Occupations	6,906	6,303	91%
Production Occupations	4,492	2,506	56%
Management Occupations	4,134	3,771	91%
Business and Financial Operations Occupations	3,971	3,622	91%
Healthcare Support Occupations	3,954	3,373	85%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	2,904	2,463	85%
Educational Instruction and Library Occupations	2,789	1,780	64%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	2,461	1,065	43%
Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations	2,392	2,169	91%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	2,299	1,580	69%
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	2,281	1,461	64%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	1,531	1,495	98%

Kansas City Region Top Grade Jobs









Now

Typically requires short-term on-the-job training, little to no experience, and/or a high school diploma

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2022-2032 Growth Rate	Average Wages
B	Cashiers 	2,656	5.5%	\$30,323
B+	Home Health and Personal Care Aides 	2,135	13.0%	\$32,478
B+	Stockers and Order Fillers 	2,092	3.0%	\$38,638
B	Waiters and Waitresses 	1,997	1.9%	\$37,782
B	Retail Salespersons 	1,722	-1.9%	\$36,779
B	Fast Food and Counter Workers 	1,442	4.7%	\$30,684
B	Customer Service Representatives 	1,442	5.5%	\$44,344
B	Office Clerks, General	1,414	4.6%	\$45,704
B	Cooks, Fast Food	1,332	1.7%	\$29,410
B+	Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, Hand 	1,288	9.9%	\$39,218

Next

Typically requires non-degree certificate, associate degree, apprenticeship, some experience, or moderate- to long-term training

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2022-2032 Growth Rate	Average Wages
B+	Miscellaneous Assemblers and Fabricators	1,170	11.4%	\$50,117
B+	Cooks, Restaurant 	1,067	1.9%	\$35,412
B+	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers 	1,035	4.0%	\$54,470
B+	Nursing Assistants 	829	14.5%	\$38,217
B+	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers 	678	2.4%	\$40,938
B	Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks 	672	9.2%	\$50,045
B+	Maintenance and Repair Workers, General 	612	6.9%	\$50,258
B+	First-Line Supervisors of Office and Administrative Support Workers 	527	7.3%	\$67,818
B	Teaching Assistants, Except Postsecondary	444	3.4%	\$34,935
B	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers 	432	3.2%	\$51,602

Later

Typically requires a bachelor's degree or higher

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2022-2032 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A	General and Operations Managers 	1,724	6.6%	\$105,234
A	Registered Nurses 	1,212	18.4%	\$80,895
A	Accountants and Auditors 	648	14.6%	\$82,527
B+	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	460	1.8%	\$56,535
A	Business Operations Specialists, All Other	427	12.9%	\$86,334
A	Managers, All Other	375	7.4%	\$120,908
B+	Human Resources Specialists 	357	10.0%	\$71,626
A	Project Management Specialists 	356	12.3%	\$95,876
A	Market Research Analysts and Marketing Specialists 	301	11.8%	\$72,248
A+	Software Developers 	301	17.0%	\$108,541

 Flame icon indicates occupations with the top 20 online job postings in 2023 within>NNL (Now, Next, Later) categories.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program. Occupational projections developed by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). Lightcast™. Job opening and growth rate data is based on sum of published employment.

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